



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

May 6, 2004

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

Veterinary Services

National Veterinary  
Services Laboratories

P.O. Box 844  
1800 Dayton Avenue  
Ames, IA 50010  
(515) 663-7301  
FAX (515) 663-7397

Dear Customer:

Effective June 7, 2004, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) located at Ames, Iowa, and Greenport, New York, will be changing the fees that are currently being charged for the services we provide. As mandated by law, NVSL is required to recover the full costs associated with all user fee activity. Fees were last changed in November of 1998. The new fees reflect increased operating costs over the last 6 years as well as substantial increases for costs not included in the original fees and extensive security implementation. This new regulation that changes the current fees also allows yearly automatic fee changes based on employee cost of living increases and economic indices published in the President's Budget for multiple years effective October 1 of each fiscal year. Because this new authority allows for increases on an annual basis as needed, large increases at one time can be avoided in the future. This information was published in the Federal Register (68 FR 43661-43673, Docket No. 00-024-1) on July 24, 2003, with a 60-day comment period.

The new prices will be available on our website (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nvsl>) by May 14, 2004, in a PDF downloadable version. The current search format on our website will be available with the new fees approximately the first week of June 2004.

If you are interested in receiving a CD or a hard copy of the new catalog and pricing rather than accessing our website, please email [Connie.J.Osmundson@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Connie.J.Osmundson@aphis.usda.gov) or fax in a request to (515) 663-7402. Include your name and address and your request for either a CD or hard copy. It will be sent to you as soon as it becomes available, hopefully early June 2004.

Contact the User Fee Help Line at (515) 663-7571 if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Randall L. Levings  
Director



Veterinary Services – Safeguarding Animal Health  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Federal Relay Service  
(Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish)  
1-800-877-8339